

Appln. No. 10/594,781
Amdt. Dated March 12, 2008
Reply to Office Action of December 12, 2007

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached drawing sheet includes changes to FIGs. 2 and 3. This sheet, which includes FIGs. 1-3, replaces the original drawing sheet including FIGs.1-3.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application and the rejection of claims 1-5 are respectfully requested. Applicants have attempted to address every objection and ground for rejection in the Office Action dated December 12, 2007 (Paper No. 20071210) and believe the application is now in condition for allowance. The claims have been amended to more clearly describe the present invention.

In the Action, the drawings are objected to because the Examiner states that the connection nodes are not clearly shown and the same reference number "6" is associated with both the "lamp" and "one of the terminals of the transformer." Applicants have amended the drawings to clearly show the connection nodes. Also, Applicants have amended the drawings and the specification to change the reference numbers associated with the primary windings to be 1' - 2' and the secondary windings to be 3'-4' and 5'-6'. Applicants submit that the amendments to the drawings and the specification overcome the objection to the drawings and respectfully request that the objection be withdrawn.

Claim 1 is objected to because the Examiner states that the word "inputs" on line 6 should be "an input." Applicants have amended claim 1 to change the word "inputs" to "an input."

Claims 3-5 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants have amended claim 1 to include the allowable subject matter of claim 3. Claim 3 has been cancelled. Applicants

Appln. No. 10/594,781
Amdt. Dated March 12, 2008
Reply to Office Action of December 12, 2007

therefore submit that amended claim 1 and claim 2, which depends from claim 1, are in condition for allowance.

Furthermore, Applicants have added new claims 6 and 7. New claim 6 includes the subject matter of claim 1 and objected to claim 4. New claim 7 includes the subject matter of claim 1, claim 2 and objected to claim 5. No new matter has been added by these claims. Applicants submit that new claims 6 and 7 are in condition for allowance.


Claims 1-2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,459,516 to Zelina et al. ("Zelina"). As stated above, claim 1 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 3. Applicants therefore submit that the rejection of claims 1-2 is now moot.

Applicants submit that in view of the above-identified amendments and remarks, the claims in their present form are patentably distinct over the art of record. Allowance of the rejected claims is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner discover there are remaining issues which may be resolved by a telephone interview, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Customer No. 24978
March 12, 2008
300 South Wacker Drive
Suite 2500
Chicago, Illinois 60606
Telephone: (312) 360-0080
Facsimile: (312) 360-9315

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

By 
Christopher S. Hermanson
Registration No. 48,244